

The Commission met on **Thursday, November 30, 2023**, with Chair Sieben and Commissioners Means, Sullivan, and Tuma present.

The following matters were taken up by the Commission:

P999/CI-23-49

In the Matter of Telephone Assistance Plan Review.

Commissioner Tuma moved that the Commission:

1. Maintain the current TAP Credit level of \$10.00 per line per month and surcharge of \$0.03 per access line per month.

The motion passed 4-0.

E015/GR-21-335

In the Matter of the Application of Minnesota Power for Authority to Increase Rates for Electric Service in Minnesota.

Commissioner Sullivan moved that the Commission:

1. Deny LPI's request for reconsideration of the September 29, 2023 order regarding exclusion of ST Paper and Cenovus sales revenues from Interim Rate refund calculations.

The motion passed 4-0.

ET3/TL-23-388

In the Matter of Dairyland Power Cooperative's Application to Relocate an Existing 161 kV Transmission Line in Wabasha County, Minnesota.

At the meeting, Dairyland stated that it would file a certificate of need application. The Commission took no action on the matter.

G-6915/GP-23-392

In the Matter of the Application of Dooley’s Natural Gas II, LLC for a Route Permit for the Swift Pipeline Project in Chippewa, Kandiyohi, and Swift Counties.

Commissioner Tuma moved that the Commission:

1. Accept the application as complete under 7852.2000, subd. 4, begin the review process under Minn. R. 7852.0600, and accept the application as satisfying the information book requirements of Minn. Stat. § 216G.03.
2. Approve EERA’s requested budget of up to \$60,000 to cover the actual costs necessarily and reasonably incurred in processing the application, permit compliance activities, administrative overhead, and legal expenses under Minn. R. 7852.4000, subp. 2.

The motion passed 4-0.

E-002/M-23-73

In the Matter of Xcel Energy’s 2022 Annual Safety, Reliability and Service Quality Report;

E-015/M-23-75

In the Matter of Minnesota Power’s Annual Safety, Reliability and Service Quality Report;

E-017/M-23-76

In the Matter of Otter Tail Power Company’s Annual Safety, Reliability and Service Quality Report.

Commissioner Means moved that the Commission:

1. Accept Otter Tail Power’s, Minnesota Power’s, and Xcel Energy’s 2022 Safety, Reliability, and Service Quality reports.
2. Set Minnesota Power’s 2023 statewide Reliability Standard at the IEEE benchmarking 2nd Quartile for medium utilities. Set Minnesota Power’s work center reliability standards at the IEEE benchmarking 2nd quartile for small utilities. Require Minnesota Power to file a supplement to its 2023 SQSR report 30 days after IEEE publishes the 2023 benchmarking results, with an explanation for any standards the utility did not meet.
3. Set Otter Tail Power’s 2023 statewide Reliability Standard at the IEEE benchmarking 2nd Quartile for medium utilities. Set Otter Tail’s work center reliability standards at the IEEE benchmarking 2nd quartile for medium utilities. Require Otter Tail to file a supplement to its 2023 SQSR report 30 days after IEEE publishes the 2023 benchmarking results, with an explanation for any standards the utility did not meet.
4. Set Xcel Energy’s 2023 statewide Reliability Standard at the IEEE benchmarking 2nd Quartile for large utilities. Set Xcel’s Southeast and Northwest work center reliability

standards at the IEEE benchmarking 2nd quartile for medium utilities. Set Xcel's Metro East and Metro West work center reliability center standards at the IEEE benchmarking 2nd quartile for large utilities. Require Xcel to file a supplement to its 2023 SQSR report 30 days after IEEE publishes the 2023 benchmarking results, with an explanation for any standards the utility did not meet.

5. Direct Xcel to provide an analysis of the incremental costs associated with achieving IEEE first quartile performance that includes a discussion of timeframes, costs, and benefits in their SRSQ 2024 filing.
6. Require Xcel to discuss how to lower the difference in SAIDI, SAIFI, and CAIDI between feeders associated with the different customer classes in their 2024 filing, including costs and benefits to implementation. This requirement ends on December 31, 2024, unless the Commission changes or extends it.
7. Clarify that Minnesota Power is required to provide CEMI (3, 4, 5, 6) and CELI (6, 12, 24), storm included, and storm excluded, for their overall system, as well as their individual service regions, until such time the Commission changes or rescinds this requirement.
8. Require Xcel Energy to provide a response to the CAO and customers contacting the Xcel Energy Advocacy Team regarding new service installations within two business days. The Xcel Advocacy Team will be trained to work with CAO on new service installation efforts and require Xcel to report information on these efforts in its 2023 service quality report.
9. On the AMP AMI late filing by Xcel, direct the Executive Secretary to open a notice and comment on the adequacy of Xcel's efforts to address billing issues associated with AMI implementation for its AMP customers.

The motion passed 4-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: January 17, 2024



Will Seuffert, Executive Secretary